

CLAIMS

1) Sanding machine (1; 300) of the type comprising a support structure (2; 302) for the piece (3) to be processed and a sanding unit (4) for said piece (3), characterized in that said sanding unit (4) comprises a frame (40) supporting:

- at least one winding element (8) cooperating with kinematic means (9) suitable for setting it in motion according to a closed ring configuration on a plane (π_1) substantially parallel to the plane (π_2) defined by said support structure (2; 302);
- a plurality of abrasive elements (10) combined with said winding element (8), spaced from one another and provided with at least one abrasive surface (16; 416) suitable for coming in contact with said piece (3) during the movement of said winding element (8).

2) Sanding machine (1; 300) according to claim 1) characterized in that said winding element (8) is constituted by a belt closed to form a ring and cooperating with said kinematic means (9) of the type comprising at least two pulleys (11, 12) between which said belt is wound and motorization means (13) cooperating with at least one (12) of said pulleys (11, 12) to set it rotating.

3) Sanding machine (1; 300) according to claim 1) characterized in that each one of said abrasive elements (10) comprises a laminar abrasive element (14; 114; 214; 414) connected with said winding element (8) through a shaft (15; 415) substantially perpendicular to said plane (π_2) defined by said support structure (2).

4) Sanding machine (1; 300) according to claim 3) characterized in that said laminar abrasive element (14; 114; 214; 414) is removably connected with said shaft (15; 415) through holding means (23; 423).

5) Sanding machine (1; 300) according to claim 4) characterized in that said holding means (23) comprise at least one moving plate (24) suitable for being placed against the laminar abrasive element (14) through the operation of a pawl (25).

6) Sanding machine (1; 300) according to claim 4) characterized in that said holding means (423) comprise at least one moving plate (424) suitable for being placed against the laminar abrasive element (414) through the action of at least one spring (430) integral with said shaft (415).

7) Sanding machine (1; 300) according to claim 3) characterized

REPLACED BY
ART 34 AMDT

- 9 -

in that said laminar abrasive element (14; 114; 414) is inclined with respect to the advance direction (18, 19) of said winding element (8) to facilitate the removal of material from said piece (3).

8) Sanding machine (1; 300) according to claim 7) characterized in that said shaft (15) comprises articulation means (22) suitable for defining said inclined position of said laminar abrasive element (14; 114; 414).

9) Sanding machine (1; 300) according to claim 7) characterized in that it comprises guide means (26) combined with said frame (40), suitable for slidably receiving said shaft (15) for at least one section during its movement.

10) Sanding machine (1; 300) according to claim 9) characterized in that said guide means (26) comprise at least one track integral with said frame (40) and are suitable for receiving rolling sliding means (27) combined with said shaft (15).

11) Sanding machine (1; 300) according to claim 1) characterized in that said support structure (2) can be moved with respect to said sanding unit (4).

12) Sanding machine (1) according to claim 1) characterized in that said support structure (2) comprises a conveyor belt (5) closed to form a ring between at least one pair of rotating cylinders (6,7).

13) Sanding machine (300) according to claim 1) characterized in that said support structure (302) comprises a plurality of rotating rollers (305) positioned side by side.

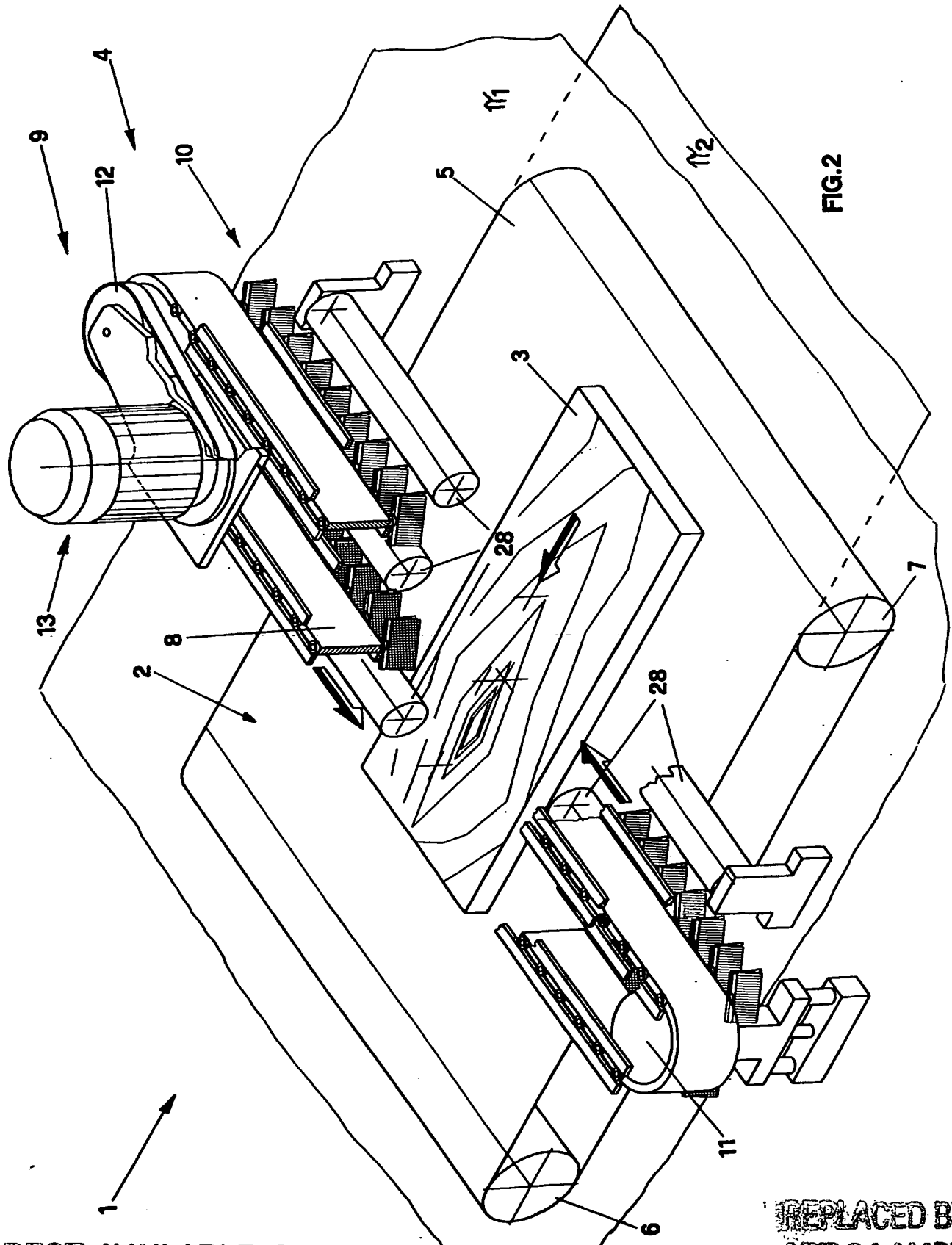
14) Sanding machine (1; 300) according to claim 1) characterized in that said sanding unit can be moved with respect to said support structure.

15) Sanding machine (1; 300) according to claim 1) characterized in that it comprises suction means combined with said support structure and suitable for keeping said piece adherent to said support structure.

16) Sanding machine (1; 300) according to claim 1) characterized in that it comprises one or more pressing elements (28) combined with said frame, suitable for being placed in contact with said piece (3) to keep it adherent to said support structure (2).

REPLACED BY
ART 34 AMDT

2/8



BEST AVAILABLE COPY

REPLACED BY
ART 34 AMDT